

City of Franklin Common Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
February 4, 2013

The regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Franklin, Indiana was called to order at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall, 70 E. Monroe Street, with Mayor Joseph E. McGuinness presiding. Council members, Joseph Ault, Kenneth Austin, Stephen Barnett, Robert Henderson, Stephen Hougland, and Richard Wertz answered roll call. Clerk-Treasurer Janet P. Alexander, Records Clerk Kathy Cragen, City Attorney Lynnette Gray were also present. Council member Joseph Abban was absent.

Mayor McGuinness opened the meeting and asked the Clerk-Treasurer to call the roll. Mr. Wertz offered an invocation. Mayor McGuinness introduced Boy Scout Troop #226 Tiger Cubs, and welcomed them to the meeting. The troop led the assembly in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor McGuinness thanked the troop for coming to our meeting and gave each boy a certificate.

Consent Agenda

Mayor McGuinness presented the consent agenda for approval.

- Approval of the January 7, 2013 Common Council Minutes

Council President Barnett made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Councilor Henderson. A voice vote was taken with all members stating Aye. No members stating Nay. The motion carried.

Announcements, Presentations & Public Comments

Police Chief O'Sullivan came forward and introduced the newest probationary police officer Russell A. Crouse. Chief O'Sullivan swore Officer Crouse in as a City of Franklin police officer.

Mayor McGuinness asked if anyone wished to comment on any matter not listed on the agenda. No one asked to speak.

Old Business

Council President Barnett made a motion to read all the items listed under Old Business by title only. His motion was seconded by Councilor Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating Aye. No members stating Nay. The motion carried.

Public Hearings

Ordinance No.: 13-01 An Ordinance Authorizing the Clerk-Treasurer to Deposit, Invest, and Reinvest Funds in Local Financial Institutions Designated as Depositories – Mayor McGuinness read the title. Clerk-Treasurer Alexander stated that action is requested annually to ensure compliance with Indiana Public Depository regulations. Mayor McGuinness opened the public hearing. No one asked to speak. The public hearing was closed. Councilor Wertz made a motion to approve the ordinance, seconded by Councilor Henderson. A voice vote was taken with all members stating Aye. No members stating Nay. The motion carried.

Budgetary Ordinance No.: 13-01 Repealing and Replacing Budgetary Ordinance No.: 12-07 - A Budgetary Ordinance Fixing and Authorizing the Payment of Certain Salaries of Appointed Officers and Employees of the City of Franklin for Year 2013 (Civil City)(As Amended before Adoption) – Mayor McGuinness read the title aloud and opened the public hearing. No one asked to speak. The public hearing was closed. Clerk-Treasurer Alexander explained that the original salary ordinance did not acknowledge that the Administrators of the Fire Department are entitled to paramedic pay in addition to their regular pay. This ordinance corrects that problem. Ms. Alexander also stated that the original salary ordinance contained a scrivener's error. The Director of Operations salary was misstated as \$38,033 rather than the correct amount which is \$38,333.00. A discussion was held. Council President Barnett made a motion to approve the proposed budgetary ordinance, seconded by Councilor Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating Aye. No members stating Nay. The motion carried.

New Business

Council President Barnett made a motion to read all items listed under New Business by title only. His motion was seconded by Councilor Wertz. A voice vote was taken with all members stating Aye. No members stating Nay. The motion carried.

Introductions:

Common Council Budgetary Ordinance No.: 13-03 An Additional Appropriation of Fire Capital 400 - Mayor McGuinness read the title aloud and explained that a truck that was no longer being used is going to be sold to the Bargersville Fire Department. This ordinance is intended to appropriate the proceeds of the sale to be used to purchase new water rescue equipment. Fire Chief Henderson concurred with the Mayor's description of the proposed project. Council President Barnett stated that the BOW had approved the sale of the truck at their meeting earlier this evening. This ordinance is set for public hearing at the March 4th meeting.

Common Council Budgetary Ordinance No.: 13-02 An Additional Appropriation of Donations to the Active Adult Center - Unrestricted supplies \$5,360.00 - Mayor McGuinness read the title aloud. Parks Superintendent Orner came forward and explained that the Senior Center had received three (3) separate donations totaling \$5,360.00. They received \$4,000.00 from a local golf outing fundraiser

known as “Pay it Forward”, another for \$1,000.00 from the Franklin Elks, and another for \$360.00 from the United Way of Johnson County. The ordinance is set for public hearing at the March 4th meeting.

Common Council Resolution No.: 13-02 Amending Resolution 10-19 Granting a Tax Abatement for NSK Corporation Increasing Amount – Mayor McGuinness read the title aloud. Community Development Director Linke stated that this resolution amends Resolution 2010-19 as to the personal property. The planned investment listed on the original SB-1 was \$9,440,000 however the company has purchased additional machinery, expending \$11,285,000 and added 24 new jobs. Ms. Linke stated that Kyle Stein of NSK was present to answer questions. Councilor Austin reported that the EDC voted to approve the amended 10 year tax abatement. Council President Barnett made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating Aye. No members stating Nay. The motion carried.

Common Council Resolution No.: 13-03 Designating an Economic Revitalization Area & Granting a Tax Abatement for J.M. Stevens Enterprises, LLC – Mayor McGuinness read the title aloud. Community Development Director Linke explained that the requested abatement is for \$200,000 and that the owners plan to expand their building and hire three (3) additional employees. The EDC voted to recommend a seven (7) year tax abatement. Ms. Linke stated that this is a highly specialized company that repairs airplane parts for companies around the world. Council President Barnett made a motion to approve Resolution No.: 13-03 for seven years, seconded by Councilor Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating Aye. No members stating Nay. The motion carried. A resolution confirming this action will be advertised and presented for consideration during the March 4, 2013 Common Council meeting.

Common Council Resolution No.: 13-05 A Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Franklin, Indiana, Approving an Interlocal Agreement Relative to Downtown Parking & Streetscape Improvements – Mayor McGuinness read the title aloud. The City Attorney explained that this agreement is for the Downtown Parking & Streetscape Improvements between the Redevelopment Commission (RDC) and with Johnson County Government. Mayor McGuinness asked if anyone present wished to comment on the proposed interlocal agreement. No one asked to speak. The Mayor stated that the agreement is available on the City’s website at www.franklin.in.gov. Council President Barnett made a motion to approve Resolution No.: 13-05 and the Interlocal Agreement, seconded by Councilor Henderson. A voice vote was taken with all members stating Aye. No members stating Nay. The motion carried.

Common Council Ordinance No.: 13-03 Fair Housing Ordinance – Mayor McGuinness read the title aloud. City Attorney Gray explained that in order to be eligible for state grants from OCRA the City needed to adopt a fair housing ordinance. She stated that this is the introduction of the proposed ordinance and that it will be set for public hearing during the March 4th meeting.

Other Business

RDC Project Priority List & Map of Gateway Project Phasing - Community Development Director Linke came forward reviewed the RDC Project Priority List. Ms. Linke stated that the RDC wants input from the Council and Board of Works members. She also said that they want input on the Gateway project phasing map. Council President Barnett suggested that the members study the map and comment directly to the RDC. At Councilor Henderson's urging Ms. Linke read the name and cost of each of the proposed projects out loud. She added that the Franklin Chamber of Commerce has requested funding for replacement Christmas lighting to fit the new lamp posts. A discussion was held.

Request for a Combined Common Council and Franklin School Board Meeting - Mayor McGuinness reminded the members that they held a combined meeting last year in the LGI room at Franklin High School. He said that the school board has asked for another joint meeting this year. The Mayor asked if the Council would be willing to do this again. A discussion was held. The selection of the date will be left up to the Mayor and School Superintendent Dr. Clendening.

Clerk Treasurer's Reports

Report of Encumbrances – Clerk Treasurer Janet P. Alexander presented a list of encumbrances to be carried over into the 2013 budget year. Encumbrances are financial obligations evidenced by an invoice or contract that were unpaid at the conclusion of the calendar budget year. Ms. Alexander stated that many of the encumbrances listed are utility bills or small contracts. Council President Barnett made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Henderson. A voice vote was taken with all members stating Aye. No members stating Nay. The motion carried.

Request to Void Two Year Old Checks Outstanding and Unpaid – Clerk Treasurer Alexander stated that the list of checks provided are known as stale dated checks because they are over two years old. Council authorization is required to void them from our ledgers. Council President Barnett made a motion to allow the voiding of two year old checks that are outstanding and unpaid, seconded by Councilor Henderson. A voice vote was taken with all members stating Aye. No members stating Nay. The motion carried.

Council Member Comments

Councilor Henderson stated that the RDC has issued and filed their annual report online with the DLGF. He also said that they will hold a special meeting on February 14th at 8:00 a.m. Their regular meeting will still be held on Thursday, February 21st.

Council President Barnett told the Council that Bemis Group will soon begin construction on the Hazelett building. He said that they will block off areas on both E. Court Street and Water Street for about five months during construction. Mr. Barnett reminded the Clerk-Treasurer to coordinate a meeting with Mr. Auld to go over information concerning employee's medical benefits. Clerk-

Treasurer Alexander stated that she spoke with Mr. Auld and that they are planning a Saturday morning work session which will be posted as a public meeting.

Mayor McGuinness told the Council that he plans to bring forward a request to hire a full-time Code Enforcement Officer in the near future. The Mayor stated that the existing part-time position is vacant and that the work load will require someone working full time.

Adjournment

A motion and a second were made to adjourn. As there was no further business to come before the Common Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held Monday, March 4, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer
Enrolled: 02/22/2013

Joseph McGuinness, Mayor

Attest:

Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer